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Commission for Social Development
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Agenda item 3 (b)
Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups

Chile, El Salvador, Japan, Mexico and Uruguay:* draft resolution

Comprehensive and integral international convention to protect and promote the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities

The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Comprehensive and integral international convention to protect and promote the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities

"*The Economic and Social Council*,

"*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 56/168 of 19 December 2001, by which the Assembly established an Ad Hoc Committee, open to the participation of all Member States and observers of the United Nations, to consider proposals for a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, based on the holistic approach in the work carried out in the fields of social development, human rights and non-discrimination and taking into account the recommendations of the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission for Social Development,

"*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/14 of 21 July 2004 on a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities,

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

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"*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution 58/246 of 23 December 2003, in which the Assembly decided that the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities should start negotiations on a draft convention at its third session,

"*Welcoming* the important contributions made so far to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee by all stakeholders,

"*Reaffirming* the universality, indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the need for their full enjoyment to be guaranteed to persons with disabilities, without discrimination,

"*Convinced* of the contribution that a convention can make in this regard, and encouraged by the increased support of the international community for such a convention,

"*Recognizing* the positive steps taken by Governments, including continued collaboration at the regional and international levels, to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities,

"1. *Welcomes* the important progress achieved so far in the negotiation of a draft convention, and invites Member States and observers to continue to participate actively and constructively in the Ad Hoc Committee, with a view to an early conclusion of a draft text of a convention in order to present it to the General Assembly, as a matter of priority, for adoption;

"2. Re*quests* the Commission for Social Development to continue to contribute to the process of negotiation of a draft international convention, bearing in mind its area of expertise and experience in the implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities[1] and the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;[2]

"3. *Welcomes* the contributions of the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission to the process of elaboration of a draft convention, and requests the Special Rapporteur to contribute further to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, drawing from her experience in the monitoring of the Standard Rules by, inter alia, providing her views on the elements to be considered in a draft international convention;

"4. *Requests* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, through its Division for Social Policy and Development, to continue to support the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, in collaboration with the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations bodies and agencies, through, inter alia, the provision of information on issues related to a draft international convention and the promotion of awareness of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, from within existing resources;

"5. *Underlines* the importance of strengthening cooperation and coordination between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in order to

[1] General Assembly resolution 48/96, annex.

[2] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendations I (IV).

provide technical support to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 59/198 of 20 December 2004;

"6. *Invites* bodies, organs and entities of the United Nations system as well as non-governmental organizations, national disability and human rights institutions and independent experts with an interest in the matter to continue to participate in the Ad Hoc Committee and to contribute to its work;

"7. *Encourages* the relevant bodies of the United Nations to continue to promote and support the active participation of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, in accordance with General Assembly decision 56/510 of 23 July 2002 and Assembly resolution 57/229 of 18 December 2002;

"8. *Invites* Governments, civil society and the private sector to contribute to the voluntary fund established by the General Assembly to support the participation of non-governmental organizations and experts from developing countries, in particular from least developed countries, in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee;

"9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to disseminate widely to non-governmental organizations all available information on accreditation procedures, modalities and supportive measures for their participation in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, as well as the criteria for the financial assistance that is available through the voluntary fund;

"10. *Stresses* the need for additional efforts to ensure reasonable accessibility to facilities and documentation at the United Nations for all persons with disabilities, in accordance with General Assembly decision 56/474 of 23 July 2002;

"11. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur to report to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-fourth session, on the implementation of the present resolution."